

CHAPTER NO. 543

SENATE BILL NO. 2660

By Black, Crowe, Burchett, Williams, McNally, Tracy, Burks, McLeary, Herron, Bowers, Kurita, Fowler, Finney

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2627

By McMillan, Hargett, Curtis Johnson, Ferguson, Fraley, Bone, West, Coleman, Harmon, Miller, Hackworth, Towns, Cobb, Sherry Jones, Langster, Moore, Pruitt, Davidson, McDonald, Odom, Ulysses Jones, Favors, John Deberry, Kernell, Marrero, Mr. Speaker Naifeh, Swafford, Gresham, Roach, McKee, Harry Brooks, Maddox, Pinion, Shepard, Hawk, Tindell, Armstrong, Phillip Johnson, Winningham, Windle, Baird, Todd, Rowland, Crider, Strader, Hill, Bo Watson, Eric Watson, Niceley, Eldridge, Campfield, Hood, Harrison, Shaw, Overbey, Russell Johnson, McDaniel, Matheny, Fitzhugh, McCormick, Hensley, Sargent, Litz, Sontany, Tidwell, Montgomery, Yokley, Cochran, Davis, Brown, DuBois, Pleasant

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 3, relative to disorderly conduct at funerals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

Section 39-17-317.

(a) A person commits the offense of interfering with a funeral or burial, funeral home viewing of a deceased person, funeral procession, or funeral or memorial service for a deceased person, if such person acts to obstruct or interfere with such commemorative service by making any utterance, gesture, or display in a manner offensive to the sensibilities of an ordinary person. Picketing, protesting, or demonstrating at a funeral or memorial service shall be deemed offensive to the sensibilities of an ordinary person.


(b) The provisions of this section shall only apply to acts within five hundred feet (500') of a funeral or burial, funeral home viewing of a deceased person, funeral procession, or funeral or memorial service for a deceased person.

(c) A violation of this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect May 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: April 13, 2006


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 24th day of April 2006


PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR